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# San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **MAN SENTENCED FOR MISLEADING HEALTH CLAIMS**

Charles Kallmann, president of Hydrogiene Corporation, marketed the "Hydrogiene Intimate Personal Hygiene, Therapy and Sitzbath System" as a means to prevent sexually transmitted diseases. Because he could not substantiate those claims, Kallmann was sentenced today in San Diego Superior Court after pleading no contest to charges of misleading advertising and other charges.

Kallmann, age 72, was ordered by Superior Court Judge John L. Davidson to pay fines and costs totaling \$12,331, perform 160 hours of community service work, and pay restitution to all creditors related to the manufacturing or marketing of the Hydrogiene product. Kallmann was also placed on probation for three years, and will serve six months in jail if he violates his probation.

The case was prosecuted by the City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit, with assistance from the San Diego Police Department and the California Departments of Health Services and Corporations.

"My office considers misleading advertising, especially claims involving important public health issues, to be very serious," said City Attorney Casey Gwinn. "Hopefully this case will send a message to those individuals who attempt to profit by making advertising claims that are untrue or misleading," added Gwinn.

Anyone who believes they may have been a victim of Charles Kallmann or the Hydrogiene Corporation should contact the City Attorney's Office at (619) 533-5600.

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